

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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47

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /009 W
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P R 171453Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6168
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS MASERU 1063

AF/EX FOR KRYZA

NO DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE AF/EX

GABORONE FOR AO/BLS

PRETORIA FOR RBFO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ABLD, LT
SUBJECT: HOUSING FOR NEW C & R OFFICER

REF: MASERU 1059

1. ON A SITE NEAR THE EMBASSY GOL IS PRESENTLY ERECTING PREFAB MODULAR HOUSING UNITS CONSISTING OF SITTING/DINING ROOM, 2 BEDROOMS, KITCHEN AND BATH. THESE UNITS ARE TO BE FULLY FURNISHED INCLUDING LINENS, DISHES, CUTLERY, ETC. THEY ARE BEING ERECTED AS ADDITIONAL HOUSING FOR EXPECTED INFLUX OF VISITORS FOR 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

2. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED COMMUNICATION FROM GOL THAT AFTER CELEBRATIONS THESE UNITS WILL BECOME AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE LEASE. EMBASSY HAS INSPECTED ONE COMPLETED UNIT AND FINDS IT TO BE VERY SMALL, NO LARGER THAN SMALL HOTEL SUITE WITH KITCHEN PRIVILEGES. HOWEVER, THERE POSSIBILITY THAT JACOBSONS WILL CONSIDER THIS ARRANGEMENT MORE DESIRABLE THAN HOTEL ROOM FOR EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME WHILE WAITING FOR MORE SUITABLE HOUSING TO BECOME AVAILABLE
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(REFTEL).

3. COMMUNICATION ADVISING AVAILABILITY THESE UNITS STATES THEY MAY BE LEASED ON DAILY, WEEKLY, OR MONTHLY BASIS AT R12.50, R85.00, OR R330.00 RESPECTIVELY, INCLUSIVE ALL CHARGES EXCEPT ELECTRICITY. EMBASSY PROPOSES RESERVING ONE UNIT PENDING ARRIVAL JACOBSONS AND THEIR DECISION AS TO PREFERENCE. THIS DECISION, HOWEVER, MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THEIR HANDS GIVEN USUAL HOTEL SITUATION IN MASERU, E.G., ALL HOTELS BOOKED SOLID SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PERIOD.

4. EMBASSY WISHES POINT OUT THAT MONTHLY RATE QUOTED ABOVE IS CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THAT OF A HOTEL (MINIMUM MONTHLY HOTEL RATE IS R450). TEMPORARY LODGING ALLOWANCE WOULD COVER FOR 90-DAY PERIOD ONLY. IF ACCEPTABLE TO JACOBSONS (ARRIVING 22 SEPT), REQUEST DEPARTMENT APPROVAL TO LEASE ON MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS PENDING AVAILABILITY SUITABLE PERMANENT QUARTERS.
STOKES

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NNN

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